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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING




MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 26, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant Criteria

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended in 2002, provides funding for programs to stimulate the development of policies and procedures to remove barriers for educating homeless students. The State Board of Education has previously approved the criteria for funding and required that the criteria incorporate specifications of the McKinney-Vento Act and the state plan.

Beginning in 2009-2010, Homeless Student grants will be implemented and awarded on a three (3) year competitive grant cycle as described in Attachment A. Consistent with the McKinney-Vento Act, public school academies and local and intermediate school districts may provide educational activities, such as tutorial programs, transportation, and counseling services, with grant funds.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve criteria for the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant as described in the Superintendent's memorandum dated January 26, 2009.

Attachment

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**MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Criteria for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant

The State Board of Education has adopted as its Strategic Goal "Attain substantial and meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students/children with primary emphasis on high priority schools and students."

To the extent possible, all grant criteria and grant awards will serve to further attain the above goal, and the Board's Vision and Principles of Universal Education.

PRIORITIES, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS THAT THESE CRITERIA SUPPORT

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant supports the Board's strategic goal in that districts may attain substantial and meaningful improvement in the academic achievement of children and youth experiencing homelessness.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE OF GRANT

☒ Competitive ☐ Formula ☐ New ☐ Continuation (*check all that apply*)

Under the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, a State Education Agency (SEA) that receives more than the minimum statutory allocation (\$150,000) must sub-grant at least 75 percent (75%) of its allocation to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) on a competitive basis. The grant criteria is to ensure that grants are awarded on the basis of need and the ability of the applicant to meet the identified needs of the homeless children and youth in its service area.

CRITERIA

Date criteria were last approved April 11, 2006

☒ Defined in Legislation ☐ Defined in Department's Approved Grant Application to the Funder ☐ Proposed by Staff

McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act Grant

The Michigan Department of Education will award sub-grants to eligible applicants on the basis of meeting the purpose of the Act, need for the grant, documented collaboration with other community agencies to coordinate services to homeless children and youth, effective use of funds, ability to meet identified needs, and complete and accurate reporting.

- 1 Applications will be judged on how well they meet the purpose of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, which is facilitating the enrollment, attendance, and academic success of homeless children and youth.
- 2 Applicants must demonstrate a need for the grant by providing data from a comprehensive needs assessment that includes the following information:

- The number of homeless children and youth served by the applicant in the preceding school year;
 - ii The number of homeless children and youth, pre-school through twelfth grade, in the proposed grant service area as documented by the census data, reporting in the Single Record Student Database (SRSD), information from the

- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) as reported by local continuum of care organizations, or other reliable source. Additionally, applicants that were grantees the previous year, and are proposing to expand services under the new grant, must specifically describe the new geographic area they will be serving and how many additional children will be served and must have completed all required reports by state and federal due dates;
- iii The needs of the homeless children and youth in the proposed grant service area and the ability of the applicant to meet such needs;
 - iv The capacity of the applicant to coordinate services for homeless children and youth with other Local Education Agency (LEA) departments such as Migrant, ELL/LEP, Title I, Special Education, Adult Education, etc.
- 3 Applicants must describe the proposed program services and activities that will address the conditions and issues identified in the needs assessment process:
- Proposed program demonstrates the integration of homeless and non-homeless students into the instructional environment;
 - ii. Proposed program supplements and does not supplant existing district programs;
 - iii Proposed program demonstrates formal collaboration with other school districts, local agencies, and/or continuum of care organizations to coordinate services to homeless children and youth, as well as within departments of the LEA;
 - iv Proposed program describes the methods and activities it will use to involve the homeless students' parents and guardians in their child's education;
 - v Proposed program demonstrates annual professional development for homeless education LEA liaison; and
 - vi. Proposed program outlines training for district/school level staff and district/school level administration on the requirements of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and the responsibilities of the district in serving homeless students.
- 4 Applicants must outline measurable goals and objectives and the methods for evaluating the success of each of the proposed program services and activities in meeting the program's identified needs.
- 5 Applications will be judged for the effective use of grant funds Effective use will be demonstrated by:
- Evidence that expenditures are tied to activities that will achieve the program's objectives and address the identified needs;
 - ii Evidence that expenditures are within the state and federal guidelines for appropriate use of McKinney-Vento and Title I funds;
 - iii. Specific, direct, and/or in-kind financial support from the school district and the school district's collaborative partner(s); and
 - iv Evidence of coordination of grant funds with local and federal district funds to provide services to homeless children and youth.
6. The following base grant amounts will be distributed to ensure that basic services can be provided to each grantee, particularly in sparsely populated areas and areas with high homeless populations:
- A base amount of \$10,000 will be awarded to each successful applicant serving 50 or more students;
 - ii A base amount of \$20,000 will be awarded to each successful applicant serving 100 or more students;

- iii. A base amount of \$30,000 will be awarded to each successful applicant serving more than 200 students;
 - iv. In addition to the base grant, a per-pupil amount will be granted based on the number of students reported as served in the SRSD for the most recently completed school year;
 - v. The availability of McKinney-Vento grant carryover funds is limited to ten percent (10%) of total funds awarded for the first year only;
 - vi. The availability of McKinney-Vento grant carryover funds is eliminated for the two one-year continuations awards;
 - vii. Required grant reports submitted more than five (5) business days past the due date will result in a ten percent (10%) reduction of grant funds available in the next grant year, or if in the final year of the grant cycle, from any future McKinney-Vento funds granted.
7. The grant cycle for these funds will be three years to allow districts the time to establish and implement effective programs for homeless children and youth. The award will be made for one year with an opportunity for up to two one-year continuation awards, based on successful completion of the previous award, continued availability of funding, and accurate and timely reporting of homeless children and youth served in grant reports and SRSD.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS/TARGET POPULATION TO BE SERVED BY GRANT

Local Education agencies, Intermediate School Districts, and Public School Academies

TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE

Estimated \$1,800,000

LEGISLATION

Title X, Part C of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

OFFICE ADMINISTERING GRANT/PROGRAM CONTACT

Office of School Improvement/Academic Support Unit/Pam Kies-Lowe